

Western Regional Trauma Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2008

Saint Patrick Hospital

Call to order: Meeting called to order by Dr. Pickhardt. Review of the July meeting minutes. Committee approved minutes with one change: SQI presentations included a presentation by Neil Heino.

SQI Presentations: Cases presented for educational purposes by Robin Foley, John Bleicher and Paula Colledge. There was a discussion regarding continuous CO2 monitoring on all intubated patients. The issue brought up the idea of a proposal to provide a WRTAC guideline to EMS services regarding use of in-line CO2 detector, when available during transport of all intubated trauma patients. We will look forward to drafts of this proposal from John Bleicher.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business: Dr Janczewski's term as chairperson is now expired. There was a discussion regarding election of a new chairperson. No new chairperson was elected at this meeting. The issue is tabled until the next meeting.

State Report: *Jennie Nemec*

- *Jennie advised the WRTAC that Kim Todd has been contracted for designation activities. Carol Kussman is also contracting w/EMS & Trauma Systems for additional trauma systems support and trauma registry assistance.
- *Basic disaster course: BDLS Courses are being conducted through the ILinc Computer. An additional ADLS course will be scheduled at Fairmont Hot Springs this winter?spring, applications are available through Jennie.
- *Other courses: Advanced Burn Life Support Courses: November 4 in Great Falls, Nov. 6th in Billings. Jenny distributed a calendar of upcoming events as well. Several courses for MT participants have been scheduled through Hospital Preparedness at Anniston, Alabama, including 34 attended the HERT Course, 64 people are scheduled to attend the Health Care Leadership Course, 41 people for the EMS Hot Course in October and more at attend the Pandemic Flu Planning course as well. There are upcoming TNCC courses, Trauma Systems Conference, Rocky Mountain Trauma Symposium in Red Lodge and the next STCC on November 17th in Helena. These are all outlined in the 2009 Calendar that was distributed.
- *Re-Designation was completed for Big Timber and Harlowton.
- Designation is planned for Chester October 22nd. Designation reviews are scheduled for Plains, 10/30/08 and Polson 10/31/08.
- *Deer Lodge review is planned for November 14 and applications are in place for Terry, Ennis, Conrad and Shelby.

- *Community Medical Center had a successful Trauma Reverification Visit in October.
- *Hospital preparedness funds will again be available and new applications will be accepted the first week of November. Smaller facilities seeking Designation or who have recently received it will be eligible for funds to continue Designation processes. Larger facilities with Designation/Verification and more mature Trauma programs will be eligible for funds to support Pan Flu planning with activities related to evacuation and mortality management. Also Pan Flu planning funds for evacuation/fatality management are available.
- *The State is looking at 2 systems issues: Pediatric Neurosurgery and Air Ambulance issues.
- **Jennie requests any information regarding specific instances where neurosurgical coverage issues arise. She would like a phone call in this regard. Specifically when and where, who we keep and who we send.
- **Regarding air ambulance: dispatch standards, resource utilization and care capabilities. Jim DeTienne is pulling a task force together to address these issues.
- *Jennie then presented facility data.

Jim DeTienne

Performance audit: Jim will be sending out letters to invite people to be a part of a government structured council to assess and address EMS issues more broadly. This council hopes to be formed by January and plans to advise WRTAC and EMS.

Jim also provided a legislative update and encouraged participation.

Committee Reports:

Eduation/Finance: *John Bleicher*

*Rocky Mountain Symposium: \$4400.00 went to scholarships for Rocky Mountain Trauma Symposium this year. Great Job!

*John discussed the new standards for emergency preparedness outlined by JACHO. John has requested phone numbers of the various players in your facility needed for disaster communications to set up a regional command structure. Please follow up on his e-mail.

EMS/ Medical directors

The directors discussed rejuvenation of EMS into WRTAC. Jim Detienne discussed the potential for mentoring western RTAC EMS providers and possible travel funds to support those activities.

Nurse/Coordinator

Hypothermia and technical barriers for interfacility transfers were discussed at today's meeting. Also nurse to nurse reports as well as physician to physician reporting was discussed.

Injury Prevention: *Bobbi Perkins*

- *Bobbi discussed the injury prevention subcommittee for WRTAC, no decisions were made regarding continuance of this subcommittee.

- *There was an invitation for an injury prevention specialist meeting next week or at another time so that the regional specialists could convene separately or through WRTAC. She will follow up on these ideas.
- *Seat belt Coalition update: Bobbi communicated some statistics on seat belt use and hospital length of stay- roughly LOS is 2X longer for an unrestrained driver with a \$30 million price tag to Medicaid. This information is to support a primary seat belt law. Bobbi discussed the importance of a “spheres of influence” type of support, i.e. identify those in your community who are advocates for increased awareness for the use of seat belts.
- *ETOH intervention was discussed and a grant was applied for from DOT for screening tools in the ED hoping to lead to an increased number of interventions.
- *TBI task force: A grant was announced by the Governor for resource facilitation with a number to call to access services. The purpose is to increase the number of mild CHI screening and referral.
- *PEPP courses are now being scheduled for the next 16 months.
- *Broselow tapes are being made available
- *EMS protocols are being made available
- *New EMS-C grant being written utilizing family centered care concepts into practices and processes.
- *A Pediatric ER Provider is needed for EMS-C Council

Area Trauma Updates:

- *Flathead: Kalispell Regional Medical Center is applying for Level III verification. Working towards a county wide EMS system for better transport and documentation standards. Also standardized medical control and standardization of care in the region. An EMS advisory committee is being formed for the Flathead.
- *Whitefish: Applying for designation. They are distributing \$40 coupons for helmet purchase.
- *Polson: Site visit October 31st for trauma designation. Working on EMS notification of impending trauma patients.
- *Ronan: Update on new ED
- *Missoula: CMC: Successful re-verification
- SPH: Remodel humming along
- *Deer Lodge: Site visit Nov 14th, ED revision
- *Anaconda: New Helipad
- *Butte: TNCC class Sept 1st. Spine specialist starting soon.
- *Dillon: Working on becoming a trauma receiving facility

Adjournment: Dr Pickhardt adjourned the meeting. The next Western Region Trauma Advisory Committee will be held Friday, January 9th at Community Medical Center in the Rehab Dayroom.